



IFW

Application No. 10/672,825 71609
Amendment dated January 3, 2006
Reply to Office action dated December 5, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

McLaughlin et al.

Serial No.: 10/672,825 Group Art Unit: 3728
Filed: September 26, 2003 Examiner: David T. Fidei
For: PACKAGES, PACKAGING SYSTEMS, METHODS FOR PACKAGING
AND APPARATUS FOR PACKAGING

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Amendment
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in Response to the Office Action mailed on December 5, 2005 in the form of a Restriction Requirement.

In the Office Action, the claims of the present application were grouped into three groups under a restriction requirement, Group I being claims 1-39; Group II being claims 40-47; and Group III being claims 48-51. Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction, on the basis that examination of the claims would not be a serious burden, as provided in Section 803 of the M.P.E.P. However, Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group I for examination, reserving the right to file one or more divisional applications should the restriction requirement be made final.

Applicants believe the application to be in proper form for examination.
Examination on the merits is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael K. Carrier
Registration No. 42,391

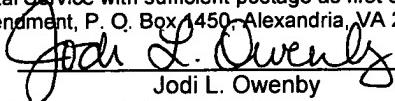
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Date

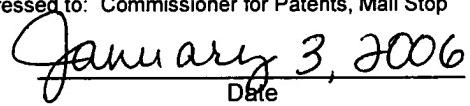
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Amendment, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Jodi L. Owenby


January 3, 2006
Date